

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT	
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This is UNEVALUATED Information

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

25X1

1. Export Plan Figures for 1953

The following targets for 1953 have been handed to DIA-Chemie by the appropriate department of the Ministry of Foreign and Domestic Trade (Ministerium fuer Innen und Aussenhandel - MIA)¹

- a) 7,000 tons of methanol to be produced by the Leuna-Werke Walter Ulbricht, Leuna, of which 5,000 tons are destined for export to the USSR, and 2,000 tons to West European countries.
- b) 1,000 tons of butyl acetate to be produced by Chemiewerk Buna.
- c) 3,300 tons of carbon tetrachloride to be produced by Elektrochemisches Kombinat Bitterfeld.
- d) 200 tons of methyl acetate to be produced by the Leuna plant.
- e) 2,000 tons of mersol to be produced by the Leuna plant. 1,000 tons of this figure is destined for export to Poland.
- f) 100 tons of saccharine to be produced by Fahlberg-List, Magdeburg(VVB Alcid)²
- g) 1,800 tons of oxalic acid to be produced by Bitterfeld, of which 1,420 tons is destined for export to the USSR and 180 tons to West European countries.
- h) 200 tons of synthetic alcohol (first distillation) to be produced by Rottleben/Kyffhaeuser,³
- i) 500 tons of hexantriol from the Buna plant.
- j) 200 tons of acetone from the Buna plant.

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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- 2 -

2. Export of Paraldehyde Mixture

- a. The main producer of paraldehyde mixture in East Germany is Chemiewerk, Buna. During 1952, Dia-Chemie exported 53,000 tons of paraldehyde mixture to Russia, in spite of the fact that only 33,000 tons were asked for in the planned figures for 1952. Since, however, the USSR required larger imports of paraldehyde mixture, the 1952 planned figures were changed to 53,000 tons. No paraldehyde mixture was exported to any other country from East Germany.
- b. During 1952, it was arranged between the USSR and MIA that the mixture of paraldehyde and spirit would be 50% and 50%, but later in the year the Soyus Import and Export Department⁴ changed its order to a mixture of 65% spirit to 35% paraldehyde. This necessitated in MIA and Dia-Chemie increasing their subsidy. During negotiations for the 1953 plan, both MIA and Dia-Chemie refused to continue to deliver paraldehyde mixture in this proportion, whereupon the Soviet authorities decided that, during 1953, the Buna Werke would send its total production of paraldehyde spirit in the proportions required directly to the Soviet Union without referring to MIA or Dia-Chemie. It was therefore decided that no target figure for paraldehyde spirit for 1953 need be included in the Dia-Chemie export plan.

3. Establishment of an Export Chamber of Commerce

A Chamber of Commerce for Export was set up in Berlin on 1 December 1952. The offices of the Chamber of Commerce are housed in the main office block belonging to MIA. The director of the Chamber is a Dr. Lessing, who had previously directed the Trade Policy Department of MIA. Other members of the Chamber of Commerce for Export are Alfred Binz of the State Planning Commission and Director Schmeisser of Dia-Keramik. It is intended that the Chamber of Commerce for Export arbitrate in any future disputes between the export departments of East Germany and the import departments of foreign countries.

4. Deliveries to the USSR and Satellites**a. Deliveries to the USSR**

In the fourth quarter of 1952, 11,900 tons of diesel oil were exported to the Soviet Union by the hydrogenation plant, Troeglitz near Zeitz (SAG Brikett). During the month of December 1952, 23,500 tons of aviation gasoline were exported to the Soviet Union by the Boehlen plant near Leipzig. The Soviet Union delivered to Boehlen approximately 144 tons of liquid tetraethyl of lead for mixing with aviation gasoline.

b. Deliveries to Hungary

During November 1952, 2.5 tons of sodium azide were delivered by the Bergbauprengstoff-und Zuendmittelwerk Schoenebeck (VVE Organisch-Chemische Industrie) to Hungary. The approximate value of the export was 100,000 DM East. Towards the end of November 1952, 600 tons of soda dye were exported to Hungary. On 12 December 1952, representatives of Hungary and Dia-Chemie concluded an agreement for the delivery by Dia-Chemie during 1953 of 250 tons of acetic acid technical and 250 tons acetic acid chemical.

c. Deliveries to Bulgaria

During the fourth quarter of 1952, Bergbauprengstoff-und Zuendmittelwerk, Schoenebeck, delivered 1,800,000 detonators to Bulgaria.

5. Balkan Trade Delegation in Berlin

At the beginning of December 1952, trade delegations from Hungary, Rumania, and Albania visited Berlin for the purposes of concluding Trade Agreements for 1953 with the various East German Ministries. The Hungarian delegation was led by Trade Secretary, Karsay (fnu) whose chemical expert was Laszlo Ungar.

6. Imports from China

During 1952, 500 tons of castor oil were imported from China.

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- 4 -

1. [redacted] Comment: These figures are not the total planned figures. [redacted] 25X1

2. [redacted] Comment: DIA-Chemie found it difficult to dispose of all its saccharin during 1952.

3. [redacted] Comment: Not further identified [redacted] 25X1

4. [redacted] Comment: Possibly Soyuschimexport. 25X1

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